



WEEKLY UPDATE – FEBRUARY 18, 2010

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ACTION NEEDED

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INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

2. **SERVICE COORDINATION WORKGROUP NOTES (WITH ATTACHMENT)**
3. **SURPLUS/DEFICIT REPORTS**
4. **NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONSORTIUM IN SENSORY DISABILITIES (WITH ATTACHMENT)**
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7. **SERVICE COORDINATORS CONFERENCE CALL**

ACTION NEEDED

ARRA ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS (With Attachment)

- As we prepare for contract amendments to fund the next fiscal year, we need an estimate of the amounts you will be invoicing for the ARRA enhancement projects with 2009-10 invoices and the amount you need to roll in to the 2010-11 fiscal year funding. When making estimates, please be conservative and ensure that no more than will be invoiced in 2009-10 is shown in your estimate. Better to put too much in 2010-11, than leave too much in 2009-10. If you do not invoice for the total amount you estimate in 2009-10, the balance will not be available in 2010-11 without an additional amendment. Anything you spend in 2009-10 can be invoiced in 2010-11 if your 3 year contract term doesn't end June 30, 2010. If your contract term DOES end June 30, 2010, please contact your Contract Manager for further guidance in completing this request. Please complete

the attached *ARRA Estimated Billing.xls* form (attached) and return it to your Contract Manager and Lynn Marie Price by **COB March 15**.

- Please remember to send your Information Resource Request (IRR) form to your Contract Manager prior to purchasing your Information Technology items!
- It is unfortunate that we have to do this, but with the increasing financial vulnerability of Early Steps, we will be holding back the balances of the amounts that were allotted to each of the Local Early Steps for ARRA enhancement projects to fund direct services in 2010-11.

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

SERVICE COORDINATION WORKGROUP (With Attachment)

The service coordination workgroup had a call on February 10, 2010. Topics discussed included family survey, interventions and the 3rd birthday, and upcoming trainings. Notes from the February call are forthcoming. Notes from the January call are attached.

LOCAL EARLY STEPS SURPLUS/DEFICIT REPORTS

The Early Steps State Office staff and CMS Contract Management Staff are doing further analyzes of the deficits that were reported. We do not have adequate funds to cover the \$2.1 million deficit that was projected statewide. We are hoping to refine the deficits to be as accurate as possible before we can determine if and how much we are able to provide. Please extend the usual cooperation to your Contract Manager and Program Manager if they contact you for further data.

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP CONSORTIUM IN SENSORY DISABILITIES (With Attachment)

The National Leadership Consortium in Sensory Disabilities (NLCSD), funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, is accepting applications to doctoral programs in the areas of blind /visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, and deafblindness. Full tuition and a minimum of \$20,000 annual living stipend will be provided to NLCSD Fellows for up to four years of full-time on campus study while they earn their doctorates at one of the 25 Consortium Universities. Fellowships are available to US citizens/permanent residents who must first be accepted into a doctoral program. The cohort will begin Fall 2010.

The consortium members, and the doctoral programs they offer, are listed at <http://www.salus.edu/nlcSD/index.html>

Applications must be postmarked by **March 26, 2010**. Applications postmarked after that date will not be considered. Notifications will be made to applicants by **May 3, 2010**. Please see the attached announcement for more information.

NATIONAL EARLY INTERVENTION LONGITUDINAL STUDY

The link below has some very interesting information regarding IDEA Part C children nationwide. The data comes from the National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study (NEILS) being conducted by SRI International. <http://www.sri.com/neils/>

NECTAC NEWS

For the current issue of NECTAC eNotes go to <http://www.nectac.org/enotes/enotes.asp>

UPCOMING MEETINGS/TRAININGS/CONFERENCES

SERVICE COORDINATORS CONFERENCE CALL

The next call will be held March 10, 2010 at 12:00pm EST. Topics to be discussed will include foster family/legal custody issues and transferring cases from one LES to another. Representation on the calls from each LES is important for information gathering and sharing. If the designated person is unable to participate in a call, please arrange for someone else to join on the call.